IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented) Method for the production of a glazing provided with a multilayer coating, said multilayer coating being deposited on a glass substrate by cathodic sputtering at reduced pressure, comprising:

depositing at least a first transparent dielectric layer on the substrate;

followed by depositing a functional layer of an Ag-based infrared reflective material;

depositing, in an atmosphere containing 20% oxygen at maximum, on said functional layer a first protective layer with a geometric thickness of 3 nm at maximum and composed of a material, of which the electronegativity difference from oxygen is less than 1.9 and of which the electronegativity value is less than that of said infrared reflective material;

followed by depositing, in an atmosphere containing 10% oxygen at maximum, of a second protective layer directly on the first protective layer, with a geometric thickness of 7 nm at maximum and composed of a material, of which the electronegativity difference from oxygen is greater than 1.4; and

then depositing at least a second transparent dielectric layer.

Claims 2-3 (Cancelled).

Claim 4 (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the electronegativity value of the material of the first protective layer is at least 0.05 less than that of the infrared reflective material.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the material of the second protective layer has a lower electronegativity value than the electronegativity value of the material of the first protective layer.

Claims 6-11 (Cancelled).

Claim 12 (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the second protective layer is deposited in a thickness in the range of between 2 nm and 6 nm.

Claims 13-18 (Cancelled).

Claim 19 (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 1, further comprising:

depositing at least two functional layers based on an infrared reflective material;

each functional layer followed by depositing first and second protective layers, and

wherein at least one intermediate dielectric layer is deposited between said functional layers.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 1, further comprising:

depositing a final titanium-based protective layer to terminate the multilayer coating.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented) Method for the production of a bent or toughened glazing provided with a multilayer coating, further comprising:

subjecting a coated substrate obtained by the method according to Claim 1 to a bending or toughening operation.

Claim 22 (Withdrawn) Glazing provided with a multilayer coating, characterised in that it comprises a glass substrate, on which is deposited at least one functional layer based on an infrared reflective material, the functional layer or at least one of the functional layers being enclosed by at least one transparent dielectric layer, and that on its face opposite the substrate and directly in contact therewith, said functional layer is covered by a first protective layer with a geometric thickness of 3 nm at maximum and composed of a metal- or semi-metal-based material in metal, nitrided or sub-oxidised form, of which the electronegativity difference from oxygen is less than 1.9 and of which the electronegativity value is less than that of the infrared reflective material, followed by a second protective layer with a geometric thickness of 7 nm at maximum and composed of a material based on metal or semi-metal in substantially totally oxidised form, of which the electronegativity difference from oxygen is greater than 1.4 and which is different from the material of the transparent dielectric layer directly adjoining it.

Claim 23 (Cancelled).

Claim 24 (Withdrawn) Glazing according to Claim 22, characterised in that the or at least one of the first protective layers is/are composed of a material, of which the electronegativity difference from oxygen is less than 1.8 and preferably less than 1.7.

Claim 25 (Withdrawn) Glazing according to Claim 22, characterised in that the or at least one of the second protective layers islare composed of a material, of which the electronegativity difference from oxygen is greater than 1.6 and preferably greater than 1.8.

Claim 26 (Withdrawn) Glazing according to Claim 22, characterised in that the electronegativity value of the material of the or at least one of the first protective layers is at least 0.05 less than that of the infrared reflective material adjoining it.

Claim 27 (Withdrawn) Glazing according to Claim 22, characterised in that the material of the or at least one of the second protective layers has a lower electronegativity value than the electronegativity value of the material of the first protective layer adjoining it.

Claim 28 (Withdrawn) Glazing according to Claim 27, characterised in that the material of the or at least one of the second protective layers has an electronegativity value at least 0.1, and preferably at least 0.2, less than the electronegativity value of the material of the first protective layer adjoining it.

Claim 29 (Withdrawn) Glazing according to Claim 22, characterised in that the or at least one of the functional layers is/are Ag-based, and that said first protective layer or layers is/are based on an alloy of Ni and Cr, and said second protective layer or layers islare formed from titanium oxide.

Claims 30-32 (Cancelled).

Claim 33 (Withdrawn) Bent or toughened glazing provided with a multilayer coating, characterised in that it comprises a glass substrate, on which is deposited at least one functional layer based on an infrared reflective material, the functional layer or at least one of the functional layers being enclosed by at least one transparent dielectric layer, and that on its face opposite the substrate and directly in contact therewith, said functional layer is covered

by a first protective layer with a geometric thickness of 3 nm at maximum and composed of a metal- or semi-metal based material in oxidised or sub-oxidised form, of which the electronegativity difference from oxygen is less than 1.9, followed by a second protective layer with a geometric thickness of 7 nm at maximum and composed of a material based on metal or semi-metal in substantially totally oxidised form, of which the electronegativity difference from oxygen is greater than 1.4 and which is different from the material of the transparent dielectric layer directly adjoining it.

Claim 34 (Cancelled).

Claim 35 (Withdrawn) Glazing according to Claim 33, characterised in that the or at least one of the first protective layers is/are composed of a material, of which the electronegativity difference from oxygen is less than 1.8 and preferably less than 1.7.

Claim 36 (Withdrawn) Glazing according to Claim 33, characterised in that the or at least one of the second protective layers is/are composed of a material, of which the electronegativity difference from oxygen is greater than 1.6 and preferably greater than 1.8.

Claim 37 (Withdrawn) Glazing according to Claim 33, characterised in that the electronegativity value of the material of the or at least one of the first protective layers is less than that of the infrared reflective material adjoining it, and preferably by at least 0.05.

Claim 38 (Withdrawn) Glazing according to Claim 33, characterised in that the material of the or at least one of the second protective layers has a lower electronegativity value than the electronegativity value of the material of the first protective layer adjoining it.

Claim 39 (Withdrawn) Glazing according to Claim 38, characterised in that the material of the or at least one of the second protective layers has an electronegativity value at least 0.1, and preferably at least 0.2, less than the electronegativity value of the material of the first protective layer adjoining it.

Claim 40 (Withdrawn) Glazing according to Claim 33, characterised in that the functional layer is Ag-based, and that said first protective layer or layers is/are based on an alloy of Ni and Cr, and said second protective layer or layers is/are formed from titanium oxide, and that at least one of the dielectric layers contains a zinc-based oxide, preferably an oxide based on a zinc- tin alloy.

Claims 41-48 (Cancelled).

Claim 49 (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the first protective layer is composed of a material, of which the electronegativity difference from oxygen is less than 1.8.

Claim 50 (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the first protective layer is composed of a material of which the electronegativity difference from oxygen is less than 1.7.

Claim 51 (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the second protective layer is composed of a material, of which the electronegativity difference from oxygen is greater than 1.6.

Claim 52 (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the second protective layer is composed of a material, of which the electronegativity difference from oxygen is greater than 1.8.

Claim 53 (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 5, wherein the material of the second protective layer has an electronegativity value at least 0.1 less than the electronegativity value of the material of the first protective layer.

Claim 54 (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 5, wherein the material of the second protective layer has an electronegativity value at least 0.2 less than the electronegativity value of the material of the first protective layer.

Claim 55 (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the first protective layer is NiCr-based.

Claim 56 (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the first protective layer is based on an NiCr 80/20 alloy.

Claim 57 (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the material of the second protective layer is selected from titanium, aluminium or tantalum.

Claim 58 (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the material of the second protective layer is titanium.

Claim 59 (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the first protective layer is deposited in a thickness in the range of between 0.5 nm and 2.5 nm.

Claim 60 (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the first protective layer is deposited in a thickness in the range of between 0.5 nm and 2 nm.

Claim 61 (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the first protective layer is deposited in a thickness in the range of between 0.6 nm and 1.5 nm.

Claim 62 (Cancelled).

Claim 63 (Cancelled).

Claim 64 (New) Method for the production of a glazing provided with a multilayer coating, said multilayer coating being deposited on a glass substrate by cathodic sputtering at reduced pressure, comprising:

depositing at least a first transparent dielectric layer on the substrate;

followed by depositing a functional layer of an Ag-based infrared reflective material;

depositing, in an atmosphere containing 5% oxygen at maximum, on said functional layer a first protective layer with a geometric thickness of 3 nm at maximum and composed of a material, of which the electronegativity difference from oxygen is less than 1.9 and of which the electronegativity value is less than that of said infrared reflective material;

followed by depositing, in an atmosphere containing 20% oxygen at maximum, of a second protective layer directly on the first protective layer, with a geometric thickness of 7

nm at maximum and composed of a material, of which the electronegativity difference from oxygen is greater than 1.4; and

then depositing at least a second transparent dielectric layer.

Claim 65 (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 64, wherein the second protective layer is deposited in a thickness in the range of between 2 nm and 6 nm.